

Article.

Personal recollections of eminent men now living.

Published 1906.

No.32, Volume 9.

Subject:

Major General Daniel E.Sickles.



Article.

Personal recollections of eminent men now living.

Published 1905.

No. 32, Volume 8.

Subject:

Major General Daniel E. Sickles.



Feb 1906 -  
Copy

PERSONAL RECOLLECTIONS OF EMINENT MEN NOW LIVING.

#1. GEN. DANIEL, E. SICKLES.

Prior to the present acquaintanceship for many years I had known of the Hon. Daniel E. Sickles of New York, first as a pronounced Democrat of the staunchest type in New York City; then as a member of Congress; then as a fearless opponent of secession and the friend of Abraham Lincoln. It was an unexpected and happy instance when Sickles with his antecedents visited the new President at the White House soon after his inauguration and said in substance, "Mr. Lincoln, I will help you all I can in the preservation of the American Union."



PERSONAL RECOLLECTIONS OF EMINENT MEN NOW LIVING.

41. GEN. DANIEL H. SICKLES.

Prior to the present acquaintance for many years I had known of the Hon. Daniel H. Sickles of New York, first as a pronounced Democrat of the staunchest type in New York City; then as a member of Congress; then as a fearless opponent of secession and the friend of Abraham Lincoln. It was an unexpected and happy instance when Sickles with his antecedents visited the new President at the White House soon after his inauguration and said in substance, "Mr. Lincoln, I will help you all I can in the preservation of the American Union."



*Copy*

Personal Recollections of Eminent Men Now Living.

#I. Gen. DANIEL E. SICKLES.

In 1861 I met General Daniel E. Sickles two or three times during the time that I was stationed in command of a provisional brigade at <sup>Bladensburg six miles East of Washington in</sup> ~~Bladensburg, Md.~~ For a short <sup>space</sup> ~~period~~ I had six regiments. These included the 4th Rhode Island and the 45th New York. As Gen. Sickles had his Brigade <sup>about as far</sup> ~~stationed~~ south of Washington and the 45th New York was more convenient to his position than to mine it was transferred by his request to strengthen his <sup>force</sup> ~~Brigade~~ and help cover the approaches to the Capital from <sup>that</sup> ~~his~~ direction. The 4th Rhode Island was requested by Burnside when he was about to make his first <sup>effort</sup> ~~expedition~~; <sup>that expedition</sup> ~~which~~ was to North Carolina. I felt reluctant to lose from my command these two well-officered and well-drilled regiments, but it did not disturb my cordial relationship with either Sickles or Burnside. During the <sup>month of Sept. 1861</sup> ~~election~~ Gen. McClellan <sup>being anxious about the Maryland election</sup> sent me into the lower counties of ~~Maryland~~ with my Brigade, <sup>with</sup> ~~having~~ instructions to so distribute it as to check the return of voters who had previously passed over into Virginia to join or help the Confederates. In this movement Gen. Sickles and I co-operated <sup>in order</sup> ~~to~~ cover the Potomac pretty thoroughly from Washington to its mouth.

The impression left upon me very early in our official connection was that Gen. Sickles was not only an able officer, handsome and noble in appearance, but that he was very approachable and ready in the most cordial manner to <sup>train</sup> ~~work~~ side by side with his fellow-workers in the performance of duty. <sup>Like Mr. McClellan & Hooker he was a capital horseman and I enjoyed seeing him so handled when mounted.</sup> I soon knew that Mr. Lincoln had received him <sup>very kindly</sup> ~~in a~~ when he offered his services, and had given him in a marked manner utterly regardless of his previous political affiliation, his speedy confidence.

\* NOTE- Sept. 13, 1861, two companies of Gen. Sickles' and two companies of Col. Young's Ky. Cavalry passed through Upper Marlboro, Md. and passed the Patuxent into Ann ~~Point~~. (The Baltimore American.)

*Truendel Co.*







quasi

After this political movement into Maryland and after the regiments of our brigade had returned to their more <sup>permanent</sup> stations about the middle of October, <sup>which soon proved false</sup> there was a report that the Confederates had crossed the Potomac above and below Washington and that Gen. Sickles's Brigade had been cut to pieces. The air was full of such rumors especially about the time that General Stone was defeated and Col. E.D. Baker killed at Ball's Bluff. At that time Gen. Sickles and myself were quietly preparing our <sup>future</sup> commands for service. General Sickles commanded what was called the N.Y. <sup>Brigade</sup> ~~Excelsior Brigade~~ <sup>before leaving the Harley Island rendezvous</sup> ~~was named "The Excelsior Brigade."~~

Late in the fall of 1861 I passed over into Virginia and encamped my Brigade a few miles out from Alexandria below the Theological Seminary, with its left resting on the main road. There I remained for the winter watching the front, using besides my Infantry the 8th Illinois Cavalry under Col. Farnsworth. I found Gen. Sickles doing much the same kind of work; <sup>he made</sup> and in the Spring <sup>had</sup> making an important reconnaissance as far South as Dumfries, and <sup>here & there</sup> having skirmishes with the Confederates. He went earlier than I with his command to the Peninsula under McClellan.

The last day of May and the first day of June, 1862 was the battle of Fair Oaks. <sup>our army under</sup> It was then McClellan's <sup>army came</sup> got the nearest to Richmond of any time till the final surrender. In an account of that battle in which I was so severely wounded I noticed this expression: "Sickles commanded not only his <sup>concerning the Excelsior Brigade</sup> brigade but each of his regiments, leading and inspiring each with his own fiery ardor". After this battle Gen. Sickles and I were separated for some time, <sup>particularly</sup> during all the fierce battles between <sup>our army</sup> McClellan and Lee when McClellan was on his retreat from the Chickahominy to the James River. Gen. Sickles name appears in different battles and always with credit. He passed from his Brigade to a division <sup>of the Second Battle of Bull Run</sup> about the time as I had at the battle of Antietam, and we continued to command divisions, though never in the same Corps. <sup>When our army was up in Maryland during the Antietam struggle, Sickles was division</sup> was defending Washington; soon pushing west beyond manassas



the time that General Stone was defeated and Col. E.D. Baker killed at Ball's Bluff. The air was full of such rumors especially about the Potomac above and below Washington and that Gen. Sickles's Brigade had the middle of October, there was a report that the Confederates had crossed the Potomac and returned to their more permanent stations about the middle of October. After this political movement into Maryland and after the reg-

late in the fall of 1861 I passed over into Virginia and among  
 "and named" the "Cavalry Brigade".  
 as members of the 1st Cavalry Brigade during the Battle of Gettysburg.  
 commands for service. General Stokes commanded what was called the N.Y.  
 future arguments, which  
 1861. At that time Gen. Stokes and myself were jointly preparing our

ary, with its left resting on the main road. There I remained for the

sixty under Col. Farnsworth. I found Gen. Sickles doing much the same  
 winter watching the front, using besides my Infantry the 8th Illinois Cavalry

earlier than I with his command to the Peninsula under Maclellan.  
South as Dumfriess, and having skilsmen with the Confederates. He went  
kind of work, and in the Spring making an important reconnaissance as far



To your son  
and I'm wishing with Lee returning  
confederates. #3.

After General Hooker took command of the Army of the Potomac

Gen. Sickles was very soon recommended to command the Third Corps and was assigned to it by President Lincoln. As at that time he was junior to me in rank I immediately wrote to Gen. Hooker and asked an assignment according to my rank. In answer to this communication the President assigned me to the head of the 11th Corps. <sup>That Corps</sup> It was located then at Brooks Station <sup>just north of Fredericksburg</sup> and I went there immediately to assume charge. Here again Gen. Sickles and myself had parallel commands. His location was nearer the Potomac. He seemed during the Spring of 1863 to be much with Gen. Hooker. I saw them often together and I think there was a very firm friendship between them, though General Hooker in his conversations <sup>as a means of grace to me</sup> <sup>always</sup> ~~with me~~ cited General Meade <sup>my</sup> who commanded the 5th Corps, as <sup>with Hooker as commanding here</sup> a model for drill, discipline and preparation for mobilization. The first campaign and battle that came on it will be remembered, were connected with the second Fredericksburg and Chancellorsville.

I now began to see more of Gen. Sickles. After <sup>the</sup> ~~the~~ swinging march up the Rappahonack and across the Rappahan by Slocum's command and mine, my own (the 11th Corps) was pushed off well to the right not far from Dowall's Tavern, and there was a gap between me and Slocum which Gen. Hooker filled by Sickles's Third Corps. Thus his command and mine <sup>facing Lee's troops</sup> <sup>of each other</sup> were abreast with mine on the right. This order of location had taken place after we had moved forward on Friday (May 1st) <sup>we</sup> <sup>confederates confidently, but</sup> Engaged the ~~and~~ and were suddenly ordered by Gen. Hooker to return to our old position. Of course we did so. <sup>I</sup> ~~I~~ <sup>formed</sup> my lines <sup>mainly facing East with</sup> <sup>and I had</sup> a large brigade (Barlow's) in reserve. Gen. Sickles' command <sup>as I said,</sup> <sup>along</sup> was next to mine and stretched almost to the Chancellorsville Heights. This was the position of our two commands when Gen. Lee took the great risk of reinforcing Gen. Stonewall Jackson and pushing him with his exceedingly active troops <sup>all</sup> <sup>but always</sup> <sup>are & are</sup> along our front, <sup>during this</sup> just out of sight, and far around my right under the cover of the wilderness. Gen. Sickles was directed to push out,



*To General Hooker  
and 8th Army Corps  
Washington D.C.*

After General Hooker took command of the Army of the Potomac Gen. Sickles was very soon recommended to command the Third Corps and was assigned to it by President Lincoln. As at that time he was junior to me in rank I immediately wrote to Gen. Hooker and asked an assignment according to my rank. In answer to this communication the President assigned me to the head of the 11th Corps. It was located then at Brooks Station and I went there immediately to assume charge. Here again Gen. Sickles and myself had parallel commands. His location was nearer the Potomac. He seemed during the Spring of 1863 to be much with Gen. Hooker. I saw them often together and I think there was a very firm friendship between them, though General Hooker in his conversation with me cited General <sup>as a source of information</sup> who commanded the 5th Corps, as a model for drill, discipline and preparation for mobilization. The first campaign and battle that came on it will be remembered were connected with the second Fredericksburg and Chancellorsville.

I now began to see more of Gen. Sickles. After ~~some~~ swiftness march up the Rappahannock and across the Rappahannock by Slocum's command and mine. My own (the 11th Corps) was pushed off well to the right not far from Dowell's Tavern, and there was a gap between me and Slocum which Gen. Hooker filled by Sickles's Third Corps. Thus his command and mine were placed with mine on the right. This order of location had taken place after we had moved forward on Friday (May 1st) engaged the ~~enemy~~ and were suddenly ordered by Gen. Hooker to return to our old position. Of course we did so. <sup>forward my line moving back</sup> Gen. Sickles' command was next to mine and attached almost to the Chancellorsville Heights. This was the position of our two corps when Gen. Lee took the great risk of retreating. Gen. Stonewall Jackson and pushing him with his exceeding active troops along our front <sup>and around my right</sup> out of sight, and far around my right under the cover of the wilderness. Gen. Sickles was directed to march out



some two miles,

turn to the right, and pursue the Confederates under Jackson. This he did. While in the midst of this active undertaking Gen. Hooker took my reserve Brigade and sent it out <sup>to him</sup> ~~some two miles~~ <sup>that is</sup> to the support of the Third Corps. Gen. Sickles' movement appeared to be a good <sup>one</sup> according to all the rules of warfare, but it did not sufficiently succeed to arrest the movement of Jackson, and <sup>so</sup> I was obliged to meet <sup>at a later hour</sup> ~~the full force of~~ Jackson's Corps, strengthened as <sup>we have seen</sup> ~~I have said~~, upon my right front and flank. Gen. Fitzhugh Lee told me that when Jackson's Corps got into position in my front in the thick woods, that <sup>he</sup> Fitzhugh Lee himself having discovered just where my right brigade and battery rested had ridden back to Jackson and asked him to ride to a prominent wooded knoll some half mile farther to the West. That knoll is the point from which Fitzhugh Lee had <sup>glimpses of</sup> ~~distinctly seen~~ the right of my irregular line, that is, the right brigade and battery well intrenched. <sup>went with him</sup> Stonewall Jackson did so, stood a few minutes to get a good understanding of the situation, and then without a word returned and marched his command on a half mile <sup>farther</sup> till his left struck that knoll. From that vantage ground Jackson's large body of men sprang upon mine (Saturday evening, <sup>taking away</sup> ~~May 3rd~~, about six o'clock). The loss of my reserve and the ~~loss~~ of my Gen. Sickles' Corps from its position between me and Chancellorsville made the remainder of my <sup>force</sup> ~~left~~ less than 9000 strong, <sup>we were</sup> comparatively helpless in the front of the terrible storm that followed.. Gen. Sickles and I of course did the best we could to extricate our commands and get them back in conjunction with the rest of the Army. <sup>In this both succeeded</sup> The next day he and I ~~found~~ found ourselves holding <sup>of Hooker's</sup> important parts of Gen. Hooker's new line of battle, substantially all <sup>now exceedingly</sup> front from the Rappadan to the Rappahonack was well covered. As a defensive position it was perfect,

Gen. Hooker called his corps commanders into council near the close of the third of May, 1863. I will never forget that council of war. It was then that I <sup>came</sup> ~~was~~ to know Gen. Sickles better than ever before. I was



turn to the right, and pursue the Confederates under Jackson. This he did. While in the midst of this active undertaking Gen. Hooker took my reserve Brigade and sent it out some two miles to the support of the Third Corps. Gen. Sickles' movement appeared to be a good one according to all the rules of warfare, but it did not sufficiently succeed to arrest the movement of Jackson, and I was obliged to meet the full force of Jackson's Corps strengthened as I have said, upon my right front and flank. Gen. Fitzhugh Lee told me that when Jackson's Corps got into position in my front in the thick woods, that Fitzhugh Lee himself having discovered just where my right brigade and battery rested had ridden back to Jackson and asked him to ride to a prominent wooded knoll some half mile farther to the west. That knoll is the point from which Fitzhugh Lee has constantly seen the right of my irregular line, that is, the right brigade and battery well intrenched. Stonewall Jackson did so, stood a few minutes to get a good understanding of the situation, and then without a word returned and marched his command on a half mile till his left flank struck that knoll. From that vantage ground Jackson's large body of men sprang upon mine (Saturday evening, May 31st, about six o'clock. The loss of my reserve and the loss of Gen. Sickles' Corps from its position between me and Chambersburg made the remainder of my force less than 8000 strong, comparatively helpless in the front of the terrible storm that followed. Gen. Sickles and I of course did the best we could to extricate our commands and get them back in conjunction with the rest of the Army. The next day he and I found ourselves holding an important part of Gen. Hooker's new line of battle, substantially all in front from the Rapidan to the Rappahannock was well covered. As a defensive position it was perfect. Gen. Hooker called his corps commanders into council near the close of the third of May, 1863. I will never forget that council of war. It was then that I got to know Gen. Sickles better than ever before. I was



at the time for my corps, an offensive  
 very anxious to have another opportunity and asked to lead another charge  
 with a view of breaking the ~~enemy's~~ <sup>corps' front</sup> line. Different Corps Commanders gave  
 their views. Gen. Sickles urged that it was a very critical time. It was  
 not ~~a time~~ <sup>one</sup> then to risk too much, the loss of a battle and the breaking up  
 of the Army of the Potomac. He said substantially that officers of more  
 military experience might be confident of winning a victory but that con-  
 sidering the political condition of the land just then that he believed  
 it would be better for the Army to retire across the Rappahonack and refit.  
 Gen. Hooker after questioning others and listening to all opinions deci-  
 ded to retreat. As part of his Army had already recrossed near Freder-  
 icksburg he himself passed over <sup>at once</sup> and left Gen. Couch, his next senior, to  
 bring the remainder of the Army across the river. However much I desired  
 in the behalf of my own corps which was discomfited, to renew the conflict  
 offensively, I have never seriously questioned the wisdom of Gen. Sickles'  
 advice on that occasion.

Our next campaign was that of Gettysburg when General Lee made  
 his long marches beyond our Army and passed into Pennsylvania. In this  
 Gettysburg Campaign General Sickles and myself were brought into ~~an~~ in-  
 timate relationship ~~than ever before~~. The day before the first day's en-  
 gagement my Corps, the 11th, was at Emmitsburg and Sickles' Corps, the 3rd,  
 was half way between Emmitsburg and Taneytown. <sup>where Gen. Meade was</sup> The orders for the first  
 day sent me to Gettysburg as a support to the First Corps, Gen. Reynolds,  
 and Beauford's Cavalry; and Gen. Sickles replaced me at Emmitsburg. After  
 starting my command upon two routes with a Cavalry escort I sped on ahead  
 and reached Gettysburg early enough to reconnoitre the field. I was still  
 making observations and studying my charts from the top of Fahnestock's  
 Observatory when Gen. Reynold's death was reported to me. I immediately  
 assumed command of the right wing of the Army, taking the place left vacant  
 by General Reynolds. Then I sent word in different directions that every



very anxious to have another opportunity and asked to lead another charge with a view of breaking the enemy's line. Different Corps Commanders gave their views. Gen. Sickles urged that it was a very critical time. It was not a time then to risk too much the loss of a battle and the breaking up of the Army of the Potomac. He said substantially that officers of more military experience might be confident of winning a victory but that considering the political condition of the land just then that he believed it would be better for the Army to retire across the Rappahannock and re-organize. Hooker after questioning others and listening to all opinions decided to retreat. As part of his Army had already retreated near Fredericksburg he himself passed over and left Gen. Couch, his next senior, to bring the remainder of the Army across the river. However much I desired in the behalf of my own corps which was discomfited, to renew the conflict offensively, I have never seriously questioned the wisdom of Gen. Sickles' advice on that occasion.

Our next campaign was that of Gettysburg when General Lee made his long marches beyond our Army and passed into Pennsylvania. In this Gettysburg Campaign General Sickles and myself were brought into intimate relationship. The day before the first day's engagement my Corps, the 11th, was at Emmitsburg and Sickles' Corps, the 3rd, was half way between Emmitsburg and Taneytown. The orders for the first day sent me to Gettysburg as a support to the First Corps, Gen. Reynolds, and Buford's Cavalry; and Gen. Sickles replaced me at Emmitsburg. After starting my command upon two routes with a Cavalry escort I sped on ahead and reached Gettysburg early enough to reconnoitre the field. I was still making observations and studying my charts from the top of Pinnestock's Observatory when Gen. Reynolds' death was reported to me. I immediately assumed command of the right wing of the Army, taking the place left vacant by General Reynolds. When I went word in different directions that every

at the time  
for my corps  
an opportunity



commander far or near might know what had happened. My Ordnance Officer, Captain Pierson of the regular army, was dispatched with a message to Gen. Sickles with instructions; <sup>There after</sup> to go from Gen. Sickles on to Taneytown to Gen. Meade with all possible speed. Gen. Sickles heeded my message as soon as he received it and marched with ~~all possible~~ dispatch from Emmitsburg to Gettysburg, picking up on the way some Vermont troops that he found guarding a wagon train and bringing them with him to the battlefield. Capt. Pierson <sup>had</sup> failed to find Gen. Sickles as soon as I had expected, but <sup>later</sup> he was on hand with his command before sunset and just in time to give strength to our new position on Cemetery Ridge when it most needed reinforcement. <sup>from the Seminary, after the fearful conflict near there July 1st</sup> I had distinctly ordered the retirement of the First Corps, the Eleventh and Beauford's Cavalry, <sup>and</sup> the movement was executed as well as <sup>men</sup> ~~men~~ could. <sup>arrived on the field</sup> ~~came~~ under the pressure of Lee's heavy forces. When Sickles ~~came~~ Gen. Slocum had already sent forward his two divisions which had been placed on the right and left of <sup>my troops brought back, he was disabled West of Gettysburg</sup> those who had been fighting that day's battle. Gen. Hancock <sup>after his arrival coming</sup> and I had been working together as hard as we could to get the <sup>new</sup> line on the Cemetery Ridge in the best possible organic condition, and one can easily understand how happy we were at the arrival in our immediate vicinity of the Third Army Corps under General ~~Daniel E.~~ Sickles.

The night of the first day after everything had quieted down, Generals Slocum, Sickles and myself had bivouaced for the night near the Cemetery Gate. It was <sup>To</sup> ~~at~~ that place that Gen. Meade came towards morning to confer with us all. I remember Sickles' expression when Meade asked him what sort of a position it was. He piped up in his clear shrill voice, "It is a good place to fight from, General". After we had <sup>all</sup> expressed our opinion Gen. Meade replied to this effect, "I am glad to hear you say so, gentlemen, for it is too late to go to any place else."

Mrs. Thorn, an old lady still living, was at the Cemetery Gate—



commander far or near might know what had happened. My Ordnance Officer, Captain Pierson of the regular army, was dispatched with a message to Gen. Sickles with instructions to go from Gen. Sickles on to Taneytown to Gen. Meade with all possible speed. Gen. Sickles needed my message as soon

as he received it and marched with all possible dispatch from Hagerstown to Gettysburg, picking up on the way some Vermont troops that he found guarding a wagon train and bringing them with him to the battlefield. Gen. Pierson failed to find Gen. Sickles as soon as I had expected, but he was on hand with his command before sunset and just in time to give strength

to our new position on Cemetery Ridge when it most needed reinforcement. I had distinctly ordered the retirement of the First Corps, the Eleventh

and Reservoir's Cavalry, and the movement was executed as well as I could under the pressure of Lee's heavy forces. When Sickles came Gen.

Slocum had already sent forward his two divisions which had been placed on the right and left of those who had been fighting that day's battle. Gen. Hancock and I had been working together as hard as we could to get the line

on the Cemetery Ridge in the best possible organic condition, and one can easily understand how happy we were at the arrival in our immediate vicinity of the Third Army Corps under General Daniel E. Sickles.

The night of the first day after everything had quieted down,

Generals Slocum, Sickles and myself had bivouaced for the night near the Cemetery Gate. It was at that place that Gen. Meade came towards morning

to confer with us all. I remember Sickles' expression when Meade asked him what sort of a position it was. He piped up in his clear shrill voice, "It

is a good place to fight from, General". After we had so expressed our opinion Gen. Meade replied to this effect, "I am glad to hear you say so,

Gentlemen, for it is too late to go to any place else."

Mrs. Thorn, an old lady still living, was at the Cemetery Gate—



keeper's house with a part of her family. She gave us refreshments that night. I remember well the nice cup of coffee as I think Gen. Sickles' does. As my breakfast at Emmitsburg was very early in the morning one can easily understand how welcome was this, the next approximation to a meal. Mrs. Thorn was the wife of a soldier and she with her family remained at the keeper's house till after the end of the first days battle. <sup>The next morning</sup> she was forced to retire to some place along the Baltimore Pike where there was less danger. Every time I visit Gettysburg I <sup>pay a visit to</sup> ~~see~~ Mrs. Thorn and she tells me many details of the conflict and of its consequences upon her and hers. She always remembers Gen. Sickles and speaks of him with much interest.

The battle of the second day in which Gen. Sickles' ~~figure~~ figured more than any other Corps Commander, gives whenever told an exciting and eventful episode.

I will not attempt to repeat the history which is so well known to every reader, and particularly to <sup>The</sup> ~~every~~ soldiers of America. The first blow of Longstreet's Corps struck <sup>Sickles</sup> ~~his~~ command which was holding our left flank from <sup>beyond</sup> the Peach Orchard to the Devil's Den. The struggle on the 2nd day of July was a heavy one and brought into action <sup>all of</sup> the 3rd Corps, then the 2nd, then the 5th with reinforcements from the 12th and 6th. I cannot conceive of more terrible battling than what took place on both sides from the point where the battle begun to the neighborhood of Little Round Top where it ended.

General Sickles says that he did not detect the wound which took his leg until after six o'clock that day. He first preceived that blood was trickling down his leg and dripping into his boot while he was yet sitting upon his horse giving necessary orders and sending reports to his commanding-general. This was <sup>Thursday</sup> ~~Friday~~. On the following Sunday morning he was in Washington lying on a stretcher with a few friends about him in a pri-



Keeper's house with a part of her family. She gave us refreshments that night. I remember well the nice cup of coffee as I think Gen. Sickles does. As my breakfast at Emmitsburg was very early in the morning one can easily understand how welcome was this, the next approximation to a meal. Mrs. Thorn was the wife of a soldier and she with her family remained at the Keeper's house till after the end of the first day's battle. <sup>The next morning</sup> she was forced to retire to some place along the Baltimore Pike where there was less danger. Every time I visit Gettysburg I see Mrs. Thorn and she tells me many details of the conflict and of its consequences upon her and hers. She always remembers Gen. Sickles and speaks of him with much interest. The battle of the second day in which Gen. Sickles' ~~army~~ <sup>army</sup> figured more than any other Corps Commander, gives whenever told an exciting and eventful episode. I will not attempt to repeat the history which is so well known to every reader and particularly to every soldier of America. The first blow of Longstreet's Corps struck <sup>the</sup> ~~his~~ command which was holding our left flank from the Peach Orchard to the Devil's Den. The struggle on the 2nd day of July was a heavy one and brought into action the 3rd Corps, then the 2nd, then the 5th with reinforcements from the 12th and 6th. I cannot conceive of more terrible battling than what took place on both sides from the point where the battle began to the neighborhood of Little Round Top where it ended. General Sickles says that he did not detect the wound which took his leg until after six o'clock that day. He first perceived that blood was trickling down his leg and dripping into his boot while he was yet sitting upon his horse giving necessary orders and sending reports to his commanding-general. This was ~~Friday~~ <sup>Saturday</sup>. On the following Sunday morning he was in Washington lying on a stretcher with a few friends about him in a pri-



vate boarding-house, when Mr. Lincoln paid him that memorable visit, an account of which I have given in another paper.

A year ago last Memorial Day (the 30th of May, 1904) President Roosevelt indicating his intentions of visiting the battlefield of Gettysburg that day had invited Gen. Sickles and myself to meet him there. <sup>we complied</sup> I <sup>with</sup> had the opportunity of hearing Gen. Sickles explain the part he took in <sup>his request</sup> the great battle to the President and his friends gathered around. It was on Little Round Top where we stood near the monument of Gen. Warren. I could not repeat if I would his pictorial account. He strengthened me in my conviction that considering all the circumstances with no troops or cavalry to the left beyond him that <sup>the Peach Orchard &</sup> it was wise for him to hold tenaciously the rough ground of Devil's Den, and that it was indeed a good thing that <sup>the</sup> the disasters of that day did not occur on high ground of Little Round Top. <sup>I am right, Gen. Sickles deserves all the credit his friends claim for him.</sup> It required hard and costly fighting to secure our left between the Round Tops and along that whole front. It cost many a precious life, yet it was done and well done. The combats of Gettysburg had to be fought somewhere and it was no detriment to the result that they began at <sup>the</sup> Peach Orchard and ended at Little Round Top. Gen. Sickles contends that the first blow against his command came upon his extreme left where the forces of Ward's Division were defending the jagged rocks and rocky knolls of the Devil's Den.

Since the War I have been more or less associated with Gen. Sickles, particularly since my own retirement from active service. We have been from place to place together in political campaigns. He has given addresses to public audiences all over the country. It is hard for him to stand while speaking for any length of time. When he can have it arranged so as to rest his broken limb or sit in a comfortable position he has always spoken with great clearness and effectiveness. His voice is full,



vate boarding-house, when Mr. Lincoln paid him that memorable visit, an account of which I have given in another paper.

A year ago last Memorial Day (the 30th of May, 1904) President

Roosevelt indicating his intention of visiting the battlefield of Gettysburg that day had invited Gen. Sickles and myself to meet him there. I had the opportunity of hearing Gen. Sickles explain the part he took in the great battle to the President and his friends gathered around. It was

on Little Round Top where we stood near the monument of Gen. Warren. I could not repeat if I would his pictorial account. He strengthened me in

my conviction that considering all the circumstances with no troops or cavalry to the left beyond him that it was wise for him to hold tenaciously the rough ground of Devil's Den, and that it was indeed a good thing that the disaster of that day did not occur on high ground of Little Round Top. It required hard and costly fighting to secure our left between the Round

Tops and along that whole front. It cost many a precious life, yet it was done and well done. The combat of Gettysburg had to be fought somewhere and it was no detriment to the result that they began at Peach Orchard and ended at Little Round Top. Gen. Sickles contends that the first blow against his command came upon his extreme left where the forces of Ward's Division were defending the jagged rocks and rocky knolls of the Devil's

Den.

Since the War I have been more or less associated with Gen.

Sickles, particularly since my own retirement from active service. We have been from place to place together in political campaigns. He has given addresses to public audiences all over the country. It is hard for him to stand while speaking for any length of time. When he can have it arranged so as to rest his broken limb or sit in a comfortable position he has always spoken with great clearness and effectiveness. His voice is full.



reasonably strong and sounding much like that of Wm. McKinley when giving a public address. He always speaks with lawyer-like precision and in a logical condensed style. Usually he leaves a pleasant impression and convinces his hearers of the justness of his cause, but when repelling an insult, as I have heard him do a few times, no man could excel him in the earnestness <sup>and vigor</sup> of his denunciation; yet I have never known him to lose his self-control in any of these public efforts. Others have told me, however, that there had been several times in his life when his anger has been beyond his power to restrain. I can easily see that this may have been the case. Without the power of being deeply incensed by a great wrong, a malicious lie or a meditated insult, a man would not have the necessary strength for the conflicts of life. I think nevertheless that Gen. Sickles has reached as much self-control as any other man of his temperament whom I have ever met.

Once when I was in New York a clergyman of the Episcopal Church who has the control of a <sup>Young men's</sup> boys' club invited Gen. King, Gen. Sickles and myself to visit the club and speak to the young gentlemen some words of encouragement, <sup>urging us to</sup> if we could do so out of our <sup>personal</sup> experiences. I was quiet impressed by one thing that Gen. Sickles said. It was this:- "Young Gentlemen, I have never undertaken any important work in my life without first giving it careful consideration and asking the help and direction of the Great Master." During our railroad rides on the special trains in the political canvass together I had many opportunities of seeing <sup>that this was</sup> the cause, that habitually the General gave careful thought to matters of importance and evidently sought for Divine Direction. <sup>ease</sup>

I remember once coming in suddenly upon Gen. Grant when he was commanding the Armies of the U.S. at Washington, just as an officer, who had been making bitter complaints and saying things against Gen. Sickles for being promoted ahead of him, was leaving him. Grant heard this offi-



reasonably strong and sounding much like that of Wm. McKinley when giving a public address. He always speaks with lawyer-like precision and in a logical condensed style. Usually he leaves a pleasant impression and convinces his hearers of the justness of his cause, but when repelling an insult as I have heard him do a few times, no man could excel him in the earnestness of his denunciation; yet I have never known him to lose his self-control in any of these public efforts. Others have told me, however, that there had been several times in his life when his anger has been beyond his power to restrain. I can easily see that this may have been the case. Without the power of being deeply incensed by a great wrong, a ridiculous lie or a meditated insult a man would not have the necessary strength for the conflicts of life. I think nevertheless that Gen. Sickles has reached as much self-control as any other man of his temperament whom I have ever met.

Once when I was in New York a clergyman of the Episcopal Church who has the control of a boy's club invited Gen. King, Gen. Sickles and myself to visit the club and speak to the young gentlemen some words of encouragement. <sup>Young men's</sup> ~~if we could do so out of our experience.~~ I was quite impressed by one thing that Gen. Sickles said. It was this:—"Young gentlemen, I have never undertaken any important work in my life without first giving it careful consideration and asking the help and direction of the Great Master." During our railroad rides on the special trains in the political canvases together I had many opportunities of seeing the <sup>that this was</sup> ~~cause~~ that habitually the General gave careful thought to matters of importance and evidently sought for Divine Direction.

I remember once coming in suddenly upon Gen. Grant when he was commanding the Armies of the U.S. at Washington, just as an officer, who had been making bitter complaints and saying things against Gen. Sickles for being promoted ahead of him, was leaving him. Grant heard this offi-



cer with some show of restlessness, but without replying for a few moments, and then said, "General, there is one thing that is certainly favorable to General Sickles. I have never known him to abuse his fellow officers"; and I may say the same thing. Within my long talks with him concerning campaigns and battles I have never known him to be uncharitable in his criticism of others.

I have but one more incident to relate which I think will be of interest. On one occasion General Sickles and I were talking about the causes of faultfinding and criminations and slander. He said, "General Howard, isn't it strange that when a man has done his work faithfully and well for years and years that an accuser will rise up and pick out some *one* fault, <sup>some</sup> *hasty* action that had better not have been done, remembering and recalling the <sup>only</sup> *bad* all the time, and never the good?" I said, "Indeed that had been my experience. There was only one man except our Saviour who was without fault; <sup>that</sup> *man* *patriarch Enoch* <sup>was the</sup> *one*, and he walked with God and God took him."



er with some show of reasonableness, but without replying for a few moments, and then said, "General, there is one thing that is certainly favorable to General Stokies. I have never known him to abuse his fellow officers; and I may say the same thing. Within my long talks with him concerning campaigns and battles I have never known him to be uncharitable in his criticism of others.

I have but one more incident to relate which I think will be of interest. On one occasion General Stokies and I were talking about the causes of faultfinding and criticisms and slander. He said, "General Howard, isn't it strange that when a man has done his work faithfully and well for years and years that an accuser will rise up and pick out some one fault, some hasty action that had better not have been done, remembering and recalling the bad all the time, and never the good?" I said, "Indeed that had been my experience. There was only one man except our Saviour who was without fault; *Jesus Christ* and he walked with God and God took him.